BLOCKED DOORS, ECHOED VOICES & A HAUNTING GATEWAY

By Paul Dale Roberts, Halo Paranormal Investigations

The paranormal hotline rings at all hours — and when it does, you can bet something unusual is happening. Lately, I've been fielding more calls from the greater Sacramento area, where things have taken a turn from the strange to the downright sinister.

The following are three standout cases from Elverta, Elk Grove, and West Sacramento.

The Unseen Force That Held Clyde's Door Shut

Clyde's call came in around midnight. He said he couldn't get into his house in Elverta, California — not because he lost his keys, but because something was holding the front door shut. It wasn't the first time, either. On multiple occasions, he told me that doors inside his house refused to open, almost as if an invisible force had grabbed the knob from the other side.

On February 20, 2025, at 11 p.m., Clyde found himself locked out again, this time forced to climb through a window. That's when he called us. I arrived the next day. Clyde, who lives near the notoriously haunted Dyer Lane, admitted he'd explored the area three months earlier — right around the time the activity began.

Could he have brought something home with him? During my investigation, an EVP sweep produced a low, guttural growl. No visual anomalies showed up in photos, but I did notice signs of warping and water damage on the doors — especially around the handles. Was the entity responsible? Or was it simply aging wood and bad timing?

To cover all bases, I performed a Roman Catholic house blessing. The next day, Clyde called to say everything was back to normal. Doors opened freely. No more resistance. He asked if I'd ever seen a case like his. I hadn't — but I had heard something similar. A woman once described her "haunted house," where, despite locking herself out, the back door would open on its own — chain lock and all. "I'd knock," she said, "and she would let me in."

It seems spirits interact with doors in all sorts of ways

— some block them to keep you out, others mysteriously open them to let you in. And then there are doors such as the sealed "Vault B" in India's Padmanabhaswamy Temple, surrounded by tales of curses and supernatural guardians, that remain unopened and cloaked in mystery.

A House Steeped in Conflict Holds on to Its Past

Nicole didn't want an investigation of her Elk Grove, California, house — just a blessing. The energy in her home felt heavy, oppressive. Arguments broke

out easily among family members. Tension hung in the air.

According to Nicole, the previous residents were known for loud, public fights. The woman of the house was the captain of the neighborhood watch and had a reputation for harsh judgment and verbal altercations. Even after moving out, their imprint — that negative emotional residue — seemed to linger.

Bad energy lingers long after the arguments end.

It's not uncommon for energy like that to soak into a space, especially if conflicts are frequent and intense. I agreed to perform a Roman Catholic house blessing on February 25. Sometimes, clearing away emotional energy is all it takes to restore peace.

In West Sacramento, a Home Becomes a Paranormal Crossroads

Paulette's call came in on February 24 at 1:02 p.m., and she didn't waste time: "I think there's a portal in my house."

She described a surreal cascade of events within her West Sacramento, California, home — shadow figures moving through rooms, full-body apparitions, and disembodied voices mimicking her and her partner. One ghost looked like Bluto from *Popeye*. Another — an old hag — floated ominously through the air.

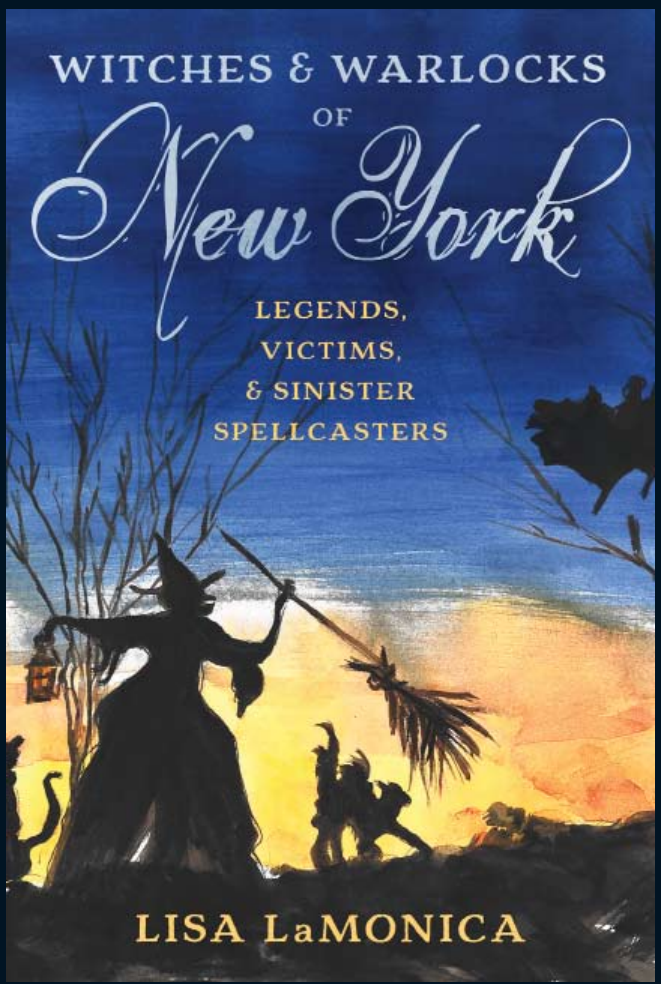
The most alarming? An entity would whisper, "Are you awake?" as she lay in bed. Another pressed against her leg, leaving her shaken and unsure of what was real.

The disturbances began in 2021, right after Paulette brought home the ashes of a deceased relative. Since then, roommates have come and gone, each one unnerved by strange occurrences: missing belongings, tapping walls, phantom footsteps. She's also spotted a male ghost in a polo shirt and another silvery figure who walks the halls without a word.

Amid the chaos, one presence brings her comfort — her deceased dog, whose spirit she still feels watching over her.

Paulette asked for both an investigation and a Roman Catholic blessing. I'll be visiting her home soon to conduct the investigation and blessing.

Whether it's a door that won't budge, a house that feeds off conflict, or a gateway to something unknown — these cases remind us that the paranormal doesn't always wait for nightfall. Sometimes, it knocks in broad daylight. And sometimes, it opens the door for you. ◆



New York has a surprisingly rich and lasting history of witches and witchcraft.

"Witches and Warlocks of New York" is a collection of legends and historical accounts about witches and warlocks from the Empire State.

Included are a history and origins of witchcraft in New York State and historical tales of "witches" across the state, including Hulda, the witch who was the origin behind a Brothers Grimm fairy tale and inspired parts of Washington Irving's "Sleepy Hollow." Plus, the Easthampton Witch Elizabeth Garlick, accused and tried 35 years before the Salem witch trials.

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